

## **Muslim Community In Amsterdam Assisting In Managing Remains Of Malaysian MH17 Crash Victims**

**Bernama**

**Aug 6, 2014**

PUTRAJAYA, Aug 6 (Bernama) -- The Muslim community in Amsterdam, the Netherlands is assisting representatives of the Malaysia Islamic Development Department (Jakim) in managing the remains of Malaysian victims of the MH17 plane crash.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom said managing of the remains by six imam from Jakim had been smooth with the cooperation of and good relations with the local Muslim community there.

"When the remains arrive here (Malaysia), Jakim and I will manage the remains of the Muslim victims while Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Joseph Kurup will handle the remains of the non-Muslim victims."

Jamil Khir said this after the signing of a memorandum of understanding on government-assisted religious school (SABK) between Sekolah Menengah Integrasi Sains Tahfiz (SMISTA) and the Education Ministry, here, today.

The Malaysia Airlines plane on flight MH17, which was carrying 298 people including 15 crew members, crashed at Donetsk in eastern Ukraine, near the border with Russia, on July 17.

The plane is believed to have been shot down by a missile while on its way from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur but to date, no party has claimed responsibility.

Meanwhile, Jamil Khir urged that all sekolah agama rakyat (SAR) or people's religious schools be registered as SABK in order to enjoy benefits like book loans, infrastructure and teacher training.

"Registering as SABK does not make the SAR governing boards powerless over these schools as they still come under their jurisdiction," he said, adding that there were still many SAR not registered as SABK.

Jamil Khir as SABK, such schools would not only have students equipped with religious knowledge but who would also excel academically.

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